

STATEMENT OF THE HON'BLE MINISTER FOR PRIMARY EDUCATION AND SSA GIVEN NOTICE BY SARVASRI KOMPALLY YADAVA REDDY, K.R. AMOUS, DADI VEERABHADRA RAO, JALLI WILSON, M.V.S. SARMA AND OTHER MLCs C.A.-178 UNDER RULE 70 OF A.P. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL' REGARDING "PRINTING OF TEXT BOOKS"

The State Government have issued orders vide G.O.RT.NO.543, Education (PE.Prog.II) Department dated. 22-7-2011 approving the action plan for procurement of paper, printing and dispatch of N.T. Books (free component) for the academic year 2012-13.

The State Government in a meeting held on 5/9/2011 with the HODs viz., Director of Text Book |Press, Director of SCERT and Director of Adult Education in the chambers of Prl. Secretary to Government, (PE) regarding low quality of paper being used for the Text Books at present and compared the quality of text books printing by NCERT and other States like Tamilnadu, and Karnataka. After considerable discussions it is decided to improve the quality of the paper by using 70/80 GSM for inset paper and 200 GSM for Title Cover . The SLTC (State Level Tender Committee) had met on 12-09-2011 and decided to use the paper as proposed.

Accordingly, Tenders were invited on all India basis for (1) Procurement of paper (2) Entrustment of printing work to private web offset printers. Technical bids were opened for entrustment of printing work on 27-10-2011 and for procurement of paper on 9-11-2011. But these were not finalized due to the interim orders of the Hon'ble Lok Ayukta dated.30/11/2011. Government have submitted a detailed justification report in respect of taking decision for improving the quality of Text Books and the details of L1 and L2 who are Government Under Taking Paper Mills i.e., (1) TNPL (Tamilnadu) and (2) HPCL (Govt. of India Undertaking.

Finally, the Hon'ble Lok Ayukta in its order dated. 27-01-2012 in Complaint No.2566/2012 has closed the Suomoto as the press clipping have no merit. The Hon'ble Lok Ayukta while disposing the case has observed that the paper used by the Government of Tamilnadu and Government of Andhra Pradesh are one and same and the State Government have used 80 GSM paper in the year 1996 and dispensed the same subsequently. Further, as the suppliers are being selected by calling open tenders national wide, therefore there is no merit in the objections raised in the press report. Hence, there is no malafide intention regarding entrusting of work to any private Paper Mills. The TNPL was stand as L1 and entered agreement with the Mill for supply of a quantity of 10,622 MTs of SS Map litho paper 70 GSM and 12,659 MTs of 80 GSM SS Map litho Paper vide Order No.5490/P2/2011, dated.3/2/2012 and 15/2/2012. No other Paper Mill was entertained in this regard.

Regarding entrusting of printing of N.T.Books, 92 printers for single colour printing and 62 printers for multi colour printing have been qualified by the SLTC through open tenders. Print orders to private web offset printers have been issued on 22/2/2012 and acceptance of agreements is in progress.

All steps are being taken to complete the printing work on or before 30-04-2012 and made the text books available at District points by the day school are reopened after summer vacation.

Regarding Sale component of text books, the press clippings appeared in the news papers has projected the additional cost burden on the parents in the form of improvement in quality of Text Books. For the sale component of text books tenders were invited for 3 academic years i.e., 2011-12 to 2013-2014 through RC.No.6272/T2/2010

dated.24/11/2010 and orders issued on 18/12/2010 to the 4 Private Publishers who were qualified in the Tender process namely

Sl.No.	Name of the Publishers	Classes entrusted
1.	M/s Ark Bird Publications, Hyderabad	3,5, and 10
2.	M/s Vijayavani Printers, Chittoor	1,2 and 6
3.	M/s Emesco Books, Hyderabad	7 and 8
4.	M/s Prajasakti Daily Printing Press, Hyderabad.	4 and 9

The Director, APGTBP, Hyderabad, has entered agreement with the above 4 Publishers for 3 academic years 2011-12 , 2012-13 and 2013-14.

The improvement of quality of text books for sale component was reviewed and decided to confine to the old agreement with the 4 publishers dated.18/12/2010 regarding quality of paper, price and royalty holds good for the remaining agreement period i.e., 2012-2013 and 2013-14. Hence, there is no change in price of the Text Books for sale component for this academic year 2012-13 and also for 2013-14 which will not have any financial burden on the students and parents. If the Government felt necessary, to change the specifications for sale books also on par with free component books it may go for fresh tenders.

The issue of payment of royalty to the Government by the publishers was reviewed and decided to explore the possibility of change the method of fixing the royalty.

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